

~~TOP SECRET~~

June 21, 1949

Dear Pilgrim:

With reference to the names and biographical data  
promised in paragraph 5 of Athe 269 I submit the attached  
statement.

Sincerely yours,

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

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It is known that ex-King Zog of Albania believes that any directing committee that might be formed to represent the Albanian people should contain representatives of the various religious and principal geographic regions of Albania as well as members of the leading exile groups. He has suggested the following personalities and estimate of each:

Midhat Frasherri -- Moslem, Balli Kombetar, southern Albania, most acceptable person as leader.

Marko Markajoni -- Roman Catholic, Independent Group, son of the former Captain of Mirdita, Ion Markajoni. Latter unacceptable because of close collaboration with Fascists, but son has clean record and family is of great importance in northern Albania.

Ismail Verlaci -- Moslem, Independent Group, son of a collaborator father but member of a prominent and influential family.

Abas Kupi -- Moslem, legitimist (Zogist), a peasant type with no foreign experience or languages, influential in central Albania, experienced in guerrilla fighting, trusted by the former King Zog.

Abdul Sula -- Moslem, Zogist, chief of the Albanian diplomatic mission (Royalist) in Cairo which is recognized by Egyptian Government, knowledge of foreign languages and diplomacy.

It would be difficult to find a suitable representative of the Orthodox religion. The only person suggested was Nushi Kotta, son of an Albanian ex-Prime Minister, Costa Kotta, who was killed by the Communists. Nushi now lives in France and has a small party called the Youth Party. He is an intellectual, quite young, has not been in Albania since before the war, knows French and English and might have some influence among the Orthodox Albanians of the south because of his family's opposition to collaborators and communists.

If the international situation makes it desirable, the committee might include a representative of Kossovo, but it should be remembered that six-sevenths of Kossovo is within Yugoslavia, only one-seventh within Albania. Possible Kossovar leaders are:

Djafer Deva -- /

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Djafaer Deva -- Moslem, hated in Albania as Minister of Interior under the Germans but popular with the Kossovars of Yugoslavia.

Spahiu (first name unavailable) -- Moslem, journalist, intellectual, from the Albanian section of Kossovo, good record but no particular influence.

Said Kryeziu -- Moslem, from Yugoslav section of Kossovo, considered pro-Tito, worked with the British before and during the war.

Midhat Frasheri - has mentioned many of the same names as possible leaders of Albanians, in exile. He has mentioned his desire particularly that the following should collaborate in any such movement:

Marko Markajoni  
Ismail Verlaci  
Abas Kupi

Some former BLO's with the war-time Albanian resistance movement have indicated their belief that the names given above are probably the most important. The British particularly advocate the use of Abas Kupi and Said Kryeziu.

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